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THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

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21st November 1956

Dear Roger,

In my last letter I promised to let you have a note of matters which I proposed should be the subject of discussion during your visit here at the beginning of next month.

There are three main subjects which occur to me, namely, the results of your African survey, Regional monitoring, and the problem of reception at Caversham during certain times of the year of transmissions from Eastern Europe. In the following paragraphs I will deal with the three points in slightly greater detail.

African survey:

As you can imagine we will be extremely interested to hear any report which you may be able to give at this stage on the results of [] African survey. The problem of reception of transmissions directed to the African continent is a very real one, and as you know we are limited in our reception both by language and audibility - for instance, I think Swahili is not heard satisfactorily either here or in Kyrenia. It seems likely that other languages, e.g. Hausa, are about to start, which will be of interest to both of us. I have been thinking of the problem which this will create, and we can exchange views on this when we meet in the light of the experience of your people during their survey.

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Regional monitoring:

[] here regard highly the importance of Regional monitoring, and we have been exploring with them the possibilities of extending our coverage in this field, particularly with a view to getting further into the R.S.F.S.R. The possibilities from Stockholm are somewhat limited, and I am proposing to have a survey made of the material which is receivable from some other centre. To this end, Rubinstein is shortly setting out to conduct a listening test from

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Ankara and Teheran to see whether monitoring from either of these two places can bring results which would justify a monitoring effort being made there. I expect he will be going during the first week in December, and it is possible that he will look in at Kyrenia on the way in order to check on the spot reception of regional stations, and thus be able to compare them at first hand with reception at the other two places. My intention is that he should be back with his report by the end of December, and I will, of course, let you know the results then.

I should be interested to know whether your own people feel the same way about this regional monitoring, as I believe that there is likely to be an identity of views between our two Intelligence organizations.

Reception of transmissions from Eastern Europe:

As you know, we have difficulty particularly during the summer months in receiving transmissions from some Eastern European countries, e.g. Hungary, and we have been very grateful to your Vienna Bureau for the help they have been able to give us, both by back-stopping and, at times, by direct monitoring. I realise you are not staffed for monitoring in Vienna, but I think it may be worth our while to consider whether during difficult reception conditions we might not explore possibilities of perhaps sending monitors from here to operate from your premises. Of course the question of expense will necessarily arise, but it is clearly uneconomic to maintain staff here during periods when they cannot hear the transmissions for which they are responsible. At all events, I want to discuss this problem with you to get your views and to see what solution seems best to us both in the circumstances. Incidentally, it was providential that the Hungarian revolution did not occur a few weeks earlier when coverage of Budapest from Caversham would have presented a major problem - indeed, I doubt if it would have been possible to resolve it.

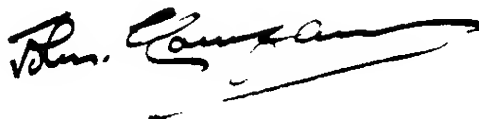
There will no doubt be other small points which occur to us before we meet, but the above are the main matters which I have in mind to discuss. No doubt I will be hearing from you, before you arrive, with the matters you wish to place on the agenda.

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We are all looking forward to seeing you here, and I am sure the discussions will be of the greatest value.

Yours sincerely,



J. T. Campbell
Head of Monitoring Service

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